

ADDITIONAL FEE:

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R E M A R K S

The Office Action issued May 8, 2003 has been received and its contents have been carefully considered.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 2 and to recite an additional element; namely:

{ "a computer coupled to the transponder reader and having stored therein, in association with each other, both the paging device identification code and the tag identification code."

This element corresponds to the CPU 106 (Fig. 1) which is described on page 9, last paragraph.

All of the claims of this application as originally presented, have been rejected over the following references:

U.S. Patent No. 5,576,692 to Tompkins et al.

U.S. Patent No. 5,684,859 to Chanroo et al.

U.S. Patent No. 6,236,836 to Westman et al.

U.S. Patent No. 6,412,086 to Friedman et al.

U.S. Patent No. 6,424,928 to Elliott et al.

It is respectfully submitted that these rejections do not apply to applicant's amended claim 1 because the systems disclosed in these references fail to teach or suggest the provision of dual, co-located retrieval devices each with an identification code; namely, a paging device with a paging device identification code and a transponder tag with a tag identification code. Further, the systems disclosed in these references fail to teach or suggest the provision of a computer having stored in memory the two identification codes in association with each other, such that given a tag identification code the computer can retrieve the paging device identification code (that is, the address of the paging device).

The principal reference, Tompkins et al., discloses a system for tracking luggage in which a beeper paging unit is attached to each piece of luggage. This beeper may be caused to beep by transmitting a message to the paging unit whenever the luggage is located in a geographic area served by the paging system.

There is no disclosure of a "transponder tag" and a "transponder reader" as now set forth in applicant's claim 1.

The patent to Westman et al. discloses a system for locating vehicles. This system also uses a paging device, attached to each vehicle to be located. Col. 5, lines 49-64 describe two systems for locating the vehicle once it is paged:

(1) a transmitter 7 (Fig. 2) transmits a signal which can be received and localized by ordinary direction finding; or

(2) the transmitter transmits the vehicle's coordinates received from a GPS receiver 9.

Again, there is no teaching or suggestion of providing a separate transponder tag as recited in applicant's claim 1.

The patent to Chanroo et al. discloses a paging system in which the call receivers 108 have "acknowledge back capability". A base site receiver 241 receives acknowledge back signals and determines when a selected call receiver is authorized to receive location specific information. If authorized, location specific information is downloaded to the call receiver.

Again, Chanroo et al. fail to teach or suggest the provision of a dual, co-located transponder system.

The patent to Friedman et al. discloses a single radio frequency identification (RFID) transponder tag. This tag and its associated transmitter/receiver for interrogating this tag is analogous to applicant's transponder tag and transponder reader (elements (d) and (e) in claim 1). There is no disclosure or suggestion that this transponder tag system may be co-located and utilized together with a paging device.

Finally, Elliott et al. do disclose that infrared and/or ultrasound signals are widely used as an alternative wireless signal to radio frequency, as noted on page 8, lines 1 and 2, of the Office Action. However, Elliott et al. have otherwise nothing to do with the subject matter of applicant's invention.

In conclusion, it is believed that claim 1, as amended, the only independent claim in this application, distinguishes patentably over all of the references of

record. The allowance of this application is therefore respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By

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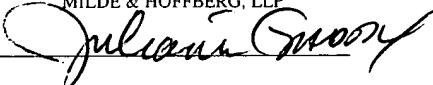
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AUGUST 22, 2003

MILDE & HOFFBERG, LLP

By



Date AUGUST 22, 2003